



NEWS FROM THE 1st DISTRICT

Dear Friends,

This week, House Republican leadership announced that they will try to rush a gift to the wealthiest corporations and individuals through Congress by misleading Americans about how their plan would really affect low- and middle-income families – just like they did with their failed health care repeal plan. This bill eliminates critical deductions that help working people, including the student loan interest and tuition deductions, and curtails the State and Local Tax deduction. It blows up the deficit, setting the stage for drastic cuts to federal spending on Medicare, Medicaid, education, infrastructure, and other crucial domestic programs. And I agree with Senator Marco Rubio that this bill's failure to meaningfully expand refundable provisions that put money in working families' pockets and that have strong bipartisan support, including the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit, is a huge missed opportunity to grow and strengthen the middle class.

Meanwhile, the plan is loaded with provisions to help the wealthiest. It eliminates the estate tax, which only applies to estates valued over \$11 million for heirs who are joint filers and will only be paid by an [estimated](#) 5,500 Americans this year. And it slashes the corporate tax rate claimed by larger businesses while actually raising rates for many small businesses, earning it opposition from the right-leaning National Federation of Independent Business.

House Republicans' tax plan isn't just regressive – it's enormously hypocritical. After subjecting our country to years of obstruction and brinkmanship over the debt ceiling and government funding levels as they claimed they cared about the deficit, House Republicans have now proposed a plan that would explode the deficit by \$1.5 trillion or even more. They want to repeat the damage they did during the Bush era, when they drove up the national debt by \$4.9 trillion. We've seen this rodeo before, and it was a disaster. In 2003, seeking a second round of tax cuts, Vice President Dick Cheney infamously said: "Reagan proved that deficits don't matter." This year, some House Republicans are acknowledging that they only care about deficits when it's politically expedient. "It's a great talking point when you have an administration that's Democrat-led," said Representative Mark Walker (R-NC), chairman of the hyper-conservative Republican Study Committee.

I will never support a plan that exacerbates income inequality by giving away even more to corporations and individuals that are already favored by our tax code, and then, in the name of deficit reduction, asks working Americans to bear the brunt of draconian budget cuts to essential federal programs. In contrast to the closed process that yielded this unacceptable proposal, I will continue to advocate for an honest, bipartisan discussion on revenue-neutral tax reform that

prioritizes tax relief for working families and small businesses in order to address our nation's income inequality crisis.

Pursuing the truth about Russian interference

On Monday, we learned about the guilty plea of Trump campaign advisor George Papadopoulos on charges of making false statements and on the indictment of top Trump campaign officials Paul Manafort and Richard Gates on charges including conspiracy against the United States, conspiracy to launder money, failure to file reports of foreign bank accounts as required under the Bank Secrecy Act, failure to register as an agent of a foreign principal as required under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), and false and misleading statements under FARA.

My top priority as a Member of Congress in relation to the investigation of collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia is to ensure that Special Counsel Mueller has the independence he needs to pursue the facts, wherever they may lead. Moving forward, it is essential to maintain the integrity of the Mueller investigation, because Americans deserve impartial and comprehensive answers regarding whether and what laws were broken, and the extent to which our democratic process and national security may have been compromised.

Kicking off Open Enrollment

I encourage anyone in New Hampshire who buys their own insurance or who doesn't currently have coverage to visit [HealthCare.Gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) starting today to see if they are eligible for financial help this year.



#GETCOVERED AT HEALTHCARE.GOV

Because [HealthCare.Gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) plan prices are tied to family income, more than half of potential Granite State enrollees will be able to find a 2018 plan for \$75 or less per month. This year it's more important than ever to shop around, because rising premiums will cause some consumers to become newly eligible for the [HealthCare.Gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) subsidy that helps make coverage affordable, and also because federal health care instability has caused many insurance companies to modify last year's pricing and provider networks.

Evaluating insurance options can be confusing, but trained professionals listed at [LocalHelp.HealthCare.Gov](https://www.localhelp.healthcare.gov) are ready to help New Hampshire families navigate this year's options.

Last but not least, people in New Hampshire need to know that the Trump Administration has moved up the Open Enrollment deadline to December 15th. Granite Staters can't afford to procrastinate: December 15th will be the final deadline to sign up for a 2018 plan.

Announcing an exciting New Hampshire partnership

This week, I announced that the Manchester VA Medical Center and UNH's Northeast Passage Program have signed an agreement to provide community-based recreational therapy services to New Hampshire veterans.

Northeast Passage is a leader in the field of recreational therapy. Its new agreement with the Manchester VA will allow more New Hampshire veterans with disabilities to access its excellent program, which has been shown to significantly improve participants' health and well-being. I extend my gratitude to all those at the VA and at Northeast Passage who worked on this groundbreaking agreement.

Calling for action on final opioid report

This week's [final report](#) from the President's Commission on Combatting Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis describes a number of meaningful steps the federal government can take to help New Hampshire combat the heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid epidemic. While I applaud the report's bipartisan consensus around evidence-backed approaches to improve treatment, prevention, and enforcement, these strategies depend on adequate and appropriately distributed federal funding. Right now, we have far too little funding and it is still being distributed unfairly, shorting hard-hit states like New Hampshire. It's time for the Trump Administration to work with Congress to fund these recommendations on a scale that matches the severity of this public health crisis instead of trying to cut programs.

A look at some New Hampshire events



On Monday, I visited the AbilityOne program at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. AbilityOne is among the nation's largest providers of jobs for people who are blind or have significant disabilities, including eligible veterans.



I also had the opportunity to visit Cobham Integrated Electronic Solutions in Exeter to discuss how we can keep strengthening New Hampshire manufacturing through workforce training partnerships.



On Tuesday, I visited Safran Aerospace Composites in Rochester and heard about their innovative workforce development initiatives.

It's always a pleasure to meet with constituents and discuss ways to keep our economy moving. As always, it is an honor to serve you in Congress.

Best Wishes,

Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress

Recent Press Releases

- [Shea-Porter Statement on House Republican Tax Proposal](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on CHAMPION Act Vote](#)
- [ICYMI: Shea-Porter, 89 Members of Congress Urge Zinke to not Increase National Park Fees](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on Final Opioid Commission Report](#)
- [New Hampshire Congressional Delegation Applauds Decision by VA to Improve Facilities for Women Veterans at Manchester VAMC](#)
- [Shea-Porter Announces Agreement between UNH's Northeast Passage Program and the Manchester VA Medical Center](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on 2018 HealthCare.Gov Open Enrollment](#)
- [NH Delegation Questions EPA on Public Disclosure of Risks from PFOA and PFOS](#)
- [Shea-Porter Statement on Federal Indictment of Top Trump Campaign Officials](#)

ICYMI

UNH's Northeast Passage teams up with VA

Fosters

Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter, D-NH-01, has announced the signing of an agreement between the Manchester VA Medical Center and UNH's Northeast Passage Program to provide community-based recreational therapy services to New Hampshire veterans.

NH delegation urges EPA not to weaken regulations

Portsmouth Herald // Jeff McMenemy

New Hampshire's congressional delegation sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency concerning a New York Times report about efforts to weaken chemical safety regulations that could affect access to public information on the risks of emerging contaminants, including PFCs.

New Hampshire lawmakers react to final opioid report

WVNY // Caroline Strange

Although New Hampshire has the second highest opioid overdose death rate in the nation, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that it will not prioritize states like New Hampshire for necessary federal grants to combat the public health crisis, according to a release from Senator Jeanne Shaheen's office.



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